

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W

-----210741Z 039128 /13

R 190930Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4778

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 448

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RW, UR

SUBJECT: RWANDA PRESSES SOVIETS TO PROVE THEIR "FRIENDSHIP"

1. LOCAL WHO REP (WHO DOUBLES AS TECHNICAL ADVISOR AT HEALTH MIN) TOLD ME APRIL 16 THAT HEALTH MIN HAD INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENCY TO ADVISE SOVIET AMBASSADOR "IN STRONGEST TERMS" THAT GOR EXPECTED SOVIETS TO MAKE GOOD ON RHETORICAL PROMISES TO HELP LDC'S WITH TANGIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. SPECIFICALLY, RWANDANS INSIST THAT SOVIETS STOP QUIBBLING AND GET UNDERWAY WITH LONG-DELAYED PROJECT TO BUILD AND EQUIP HOSPITAL.

2. COMMENT: SOVIET AID TO RWANDA NOW CONSISTS EXCLUSIVELY OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY IN USSR, ALTHOUGH SOVIETS HAVE LONG DANGLED POSSIBILITY OF HELPING BUILD MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR HOSPITAL. SOVIET AMBASSADOR CONTENTS PROJECT STALLED BY RWANDAN UNWILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT SOFT-LOAN FINANCING (THOUGH OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT TERMS APPROXIMATE COMMERCIAL ONES). GOR COUNTERS THAT IT IS TOO POOR TO REPAY LOANS AND REQUIRES GRANT ASSISTANCE.

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3. WE VIEW NEW PRESSURES ON SOVIETS AS GOR CHALLENGE TO PROVE USSR INTENTIONS HERE ARE TRULY "FRIENDLY." RWANDANS REMAIN KEENLY WORRIED ABOUT SOVIET ACTIVITIES AMONG AFRICAN NEIGHBORS AND ITS SUPPOSES BID FOR INFLUENCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. IT'S A FAINT HOPE, BUT HABYARIMANA MAY BE SETTING STAGE FOR OBLIGING SOVIETS TO CUT BACK THEIR OVER-SIZED

DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN KIGALI. SOVIET REACTION WILL BE  
INTERESTING TO WATCH.  
CRIGLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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